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THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL GEOGRAPHICAL CONGRESS.

The Congress was formally opened on the 28th of September in the Abgeordnetenhaus, Berlin, courteously offered for the meetings by the Prussian Government. About 1,600 members attended.

Prince Albrecht of Prussia, Patron of the Congress, spoke for the Emperor, and was followed by Prince Hohenlohe, Imperial Chancellor; Herr Studt, the Prussian Minister of Education; and the Burgomaster of Berlin.

Baron Richthofen, the President of the Berlin Gesellschaft für Erdkunde, then delivered his address as President of the Congress.

Sir Clements R. Markham, the President of the Permanent Bureau of the Sixth International Geographical Congress, presented the report of the Bureau and formally resigned his office to his successor, Baron Richthofen.

The general meetings of the Congress were held in the forenoon; the sections and sub-sections met in the afternoon.

The programme was very long and many papers were necessarily withheld, or given only in abstract; a condition of things seemingly inevitable in all great gatherings of the kind, and not entirely without its compensations.

From the beginning to the end the Congress was treated with the greatest courtesy and hospitality by the Imperial Government, by the Prussian Government, by the authorities of Berlin and of other cities, and by the citizens.

The resolutions finally adopted by the Congress were:

1. For the appointment of a committee to make preliminary arrangements for founding an International Cartographic Association;
2. To construct a Map of the World on the scale 1:1,000,000. This is committed to the Permanent Bureau, which is to produce a projection showing the lines of latitude and longitude on the proper scale;
3. For the construction of statistical population maps, and nominating an International Committee to establish rules and communicate with the geographers of different countries;
4. Expressing the desire of the Congress that all new geograph-

ical publishers should give particulars as to the method of surveying, the instruments employed, the calculation of astronomical positions, with probable errors, and the method of utilizing the data in constructing the maps. Also that maps issued by private or official institutions, or by individuals, should state the principal data used in construction;

5. Expressing the desire that maps and charts should bear, in addition to the graphic scale, the natural scale of the ratio between the map and the region it represents; and that this natural scale be quoted in all catalogues of maps;

6. On Antarctic Exploration, and nominating an International Committee to determine the scope and methods of magnetic and meteorological observations to be made by the expeditions sent out, and to organize simultaneous and inter-communicated observations at points outside of the Antarctic region;

7. Appealing to all countries whose ships traverse the regions of drift-ice, to institute observations and communicate the results to the Danish Meteorological Institute, Copenhagen, the central office selected to receive them;

8. Nominating an International Committee on the nomenclature of sub-oceanic relief. This committee to prepare a bathymetrical map of the oceans, to be published not later than the meeting of the next Congress;

9. Recommending the use of the metric system of weights and measures in all geographical researches and discussions;

10. Recommending the adoption of the Celsius (centigrade) thermometer in scientific publications;

11. Expressing preference for the present system of the division of time and that of the circle, but admitting the further study of a new system;

12. Appointing a permanent Committee for international earthquake study;

13. Appointing a preliminary Committee to work out a uniform nomenclature of plant-formations; the scheme to be submitted to specialists, and the finally corrected result to be laid before the next Congress;

14. On the nomenclature of Oceanic islands, the Congress being of opinion: (1) that native names should be preserved, even in the Pacific, where they must be investigated with care; (2) that where

native names cannot be determined, the names given by the first discoverer should be employed, until further notice; (3) that the arbitrary change of historical names, universally known and accepted in scientific writings, is impious and confusing to science and to commerce, and a practice to be opposed by every means; (4) that incorrect and arbitrarily formed names ought to be discarded in favor of native names or names which may be justified;

15. Recognizing the desirability of obtaining better estimates of the population of countries in which there are no means of taking a regular census, and instructing the Permanent Bureau to bring the matter to the notice of the governments of the nations which have foreign possessions;

16. Recognizing the *Bibliotheca Geographica*, published annually by the Berlin Geographical Society, as filling all the requirements of an international bibliography of geography;

17. Expressing the sympathy of the Congress with the object of the expedition now being organized in Australia to search for the remains of Dr. Leichhardt's party, lost in the interior of the continent fifty-two years ago.